

STUDENT ILLICIT DRUG / CONTROLLED DRUG / ALCOHOL USE

Definitions

1. “Illicit Drug” means any drug or substance that is not legally obtainable and whose use, sale, possession, purchase or transfer is prohibited by law (for example, street drugs such as heroin and cocaine).
2. “Controlled Drug” means any drug or substance whose importation, exportation, production, sale or possession is controlled and regulated pursuant to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.

Background

The Board recognizes that illicit drugs or the illicit use of controlled drugs is a criminal offence and that all persons in a school are expected to act as citizens who support the law.

Despite the recreational consumption and availability to persons 18 years of age and older, the Board recognizes that the use, consumption, possession, distribution, or sale of alcohol and / or cannabis (when legalized) is still strictly prohibited from all Division premises and property.

Illicit drugs, the illicit use of controlled drugs, cannabis and/or alcohol on school property, during the school day or during school related activities is prohibited.

Procedures

1. All cases of illicit drugs, illicit use of controlled drugs, cannabis and alcohol on school property, during the school day or during school related activities, shall result in the application of student suspension procedures.
2. Principals shall ensure that educational program offerings include components designed to increase students’ knowledge of the facts relating to drug and alcohol use and abuse.
3. School officials will cooperate with law enforcement agencies in dealing with matters of illicit drugs, and illicit use of controlled substances.
4. Students in possession of alcohol or cannabis; or suspected of alcohol or cannabis use on school property, during the school day or during school activities:
 - 4.1 A student found in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or cannabis on school property will be suspended pending investigation by school authorities.
 - 4.2 If a student is undergoing a reaction, immediate care of the student should be taken by notification of parent and/or by taking or sending the student to an emergency ward in a hospital if such is deemed necessary. Refer to Administrative Procedure 315: Student Health Services – Procedure 3.
 - 4.3 Where a student’s abnormal behaviour indicates possible alcohol or cannabis use; the school has the obligation to inform the parents of this behaviour.

5. Students in possession of or under the influence of illicit drugs on school property, during the school day or during school activities:
 - 5.1 Students in possession of illicit drugs or suspected of the illicit use of a controlled drug will be suspended pending investigation by school authorities.
 - 5.2 If a student is undergoing a reaction, immediate care of the student should be taken by notification of parent and/or by taking or sending the student to an emergency ward in a hospital if such is deemed necessary. Refer to Administrative Procedure 315: Student Health Services – Procedure 3.
 - 5.3 Where a student's abnormal behaviour indicates possible illicit drug use, or illicit use of a controlled drug, the school has the obligation to inform the parents of this behaviour.
 - 5.4 The school staff is to do everything possible to encourage parents to seek professional counselling and support for any substance abuse problems a student may have.
 - 5.5 A student charged by police with possession may not be allowed to return to regular classes until the principal reviews the matter with the parents and the student. Further action may result if his/her behaviour is deemed detrimental to the moral well being of the school.
6. Students found to be trafficking in illicit drugs, controlled drugs, cannabis or alcohol:
 - 6.1 A student caught trafficking in illicit drugs, controlled drugs, cannabis or alcohol on school property, during the school day, or during school related activities, shall be reported to police and incur immediate suspension pending a thorough investigation by school authorities.
 - 6.2 A student charged by police of trafficking in illicit drugs, controlled drugs, cannabis or alcohol may be suspended pending an investigation for the purpose of determining the effect of the student's behaviour on the moral well being of the school.

Reference: Section 20, 45, 60, 61, 113, School Act
Gaming and Liquor Act
Controlled Drugs and Substances Act
Criminal Code